

next day it was reported that “before the firing had ceased, half a dozen negroes were biting the duty in death, three white men were wounded and three times as many negroes.” These varying accounts from local and statewide sources, many by witnesses, prove that no actual number of dead will ever be known.<sup>67</sup> For the purposes of this report, an attempt was made to identify dead from as many sources as possible and compare those sources to eliminate duplication. The following list provides, with as much detail as possible, the names of dead and wounded men and the location in which they were murdered. The names of some dead will remain unknown whereas others have been identified. Again, due to the paucity of definitive sources on the names of the dead, the locations where murders took place, and conflicting information provided by existing sources, no

accurate tally can be made. It is unclear if Wilmington’s whites sought to cover up many of the deaths or if they were boastful of the numbers of dead. Another impediment to making calculations is the scarcity of tombstones to mark the graves of men who died immediately as well as those who died from their wounds after languishing in the hospital and homes of Brooklyn.



Pine Forest Cemetery, ca. 1900.  
Documentation of burials at Pine Forest has been difficult. Many tombstones have been damaged and some burials may not have had stones placed in the cemetery.  
Image: New Hanover County Public Library

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dead in a variety of settings. Therefore, an accurate count of people who died as a result of the violence is even more difficult to ascertain since North Carolina did not require the completion of death certificates or regulate burials until later in the Twentieth century. For example, in Wilmington’s National Cemetery is Scipio Condring, a Civil War veteran who served in the 128<sup>th</sup> United States Colored Troops. No information can be found on the cause of Scipio’s death, inscribed on his headstone as November 13, 1898. Research into the life of Scipio was inconclusive although it is speculated that his last name was not actually Condring, but instead, some derivative of Connelly. Kirk, *Statement of Facts*, 10-15.

<sup>67</sup> The *Progressive Farmer* reported 11 killed and 3 whites wounded. The report of the superintendent of health for the city as published in the paper accounted for eight killed during the riot. Only one white man, William Mayo, was seriously wounded. Mayo’s recovery was well documented in local papers in November and December. Another white man, B. F. King Jr., died about four days after the riot from the flu, contracted while patrolling the city. It is unknown if others of either race suffered the same fate. *Progressive Farmer* (Raleigh), November 15, 1898; *Morning Star* (Wilmington), November 15, December 1, 1898; *Evening Dispatch* (Wilmington), December 7, 1898; Kirk, *Statement of Facts*, 10-15.